High: 56 F Low: 32 F



Looking ahead See when your favorite teams are scheduled to compete with the calendar.

Food fight One writer takes a look at how food competition shows are not a true reflection of society.

A quick read Looking for more community updates? Check out the briefs

K-State improv group places third at tournament in Kansas City

On The Spot improves from last year's fifth place finish, places higher than KU

Darrington Clark

m e n t

K-State's improvisational comedy club, On The Spot, competed in the Heartland Regional College Improv Tourna-

Mo. The Chicago Improv Festival hosts the Heartland Regional tournament annually, and this year was the second year that the group competed.

weekend in Kansas City,

This year, On The Spot received third place out of 14 national teams that competed. Chris Littrell, senior in

political science and On The Spot president, noted the improvement that the group made from their performance

> "The first time we competed, we placed fifth overall, which is great," Littrell said. "But this year, we won our preliminary round and placed third, which is very fulfilling."
> The Heartland Regional tournament consists of four prelimi-

nary rounds.

The teams are divided into four groups and the winner of each group goes on to compete in the final round. Teams are judged on their ability to build themes and characters, consistency and story flow, and judges will offer critiques after rounds are complete.

"Each judge will give us feedback and tips for im-provement," Littrell said. "We received two feedback sheets, and it's neat to see what others think we are good at and should continue to work

"Last year, we just did our short form," said Mason Good-Turney, senior in social sciences, in an email interview. "Those are like the games that they play on 'Whose Line Is It Anyway?' This year, we did our long form which is where we get one word and then make up a bunch of scenes from that word and try to somehow

story to unravel.

Competitors in the

improv tournament could

choose which style of im-

provisation to compete

with. Styles include short

form, which is a style

more familiar and associ-

ated with improv, and long

form, a style that takes

more time and allows a

connect them all by the end of the scene. The Spot On competed against a wide range of other schools, including William Jewell College, the

University of Colorado and the University of Kansas. Teams in the competition also varied in age.
"Some of our com-

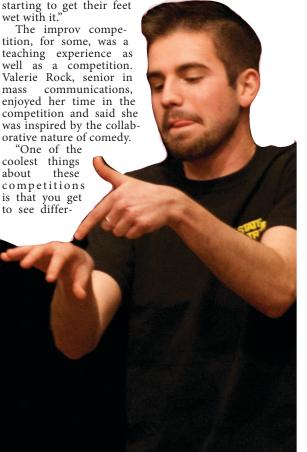
petitors were very experienced," Littrell said. "Those groups have been together for 20 or 30 years, and they constantly bring their A game. There are other groups there that are completely new to it, like we were last year, and are just

starting to get their feet wet with it."

The improv competition, for some, was a teaching experience as well as a competition. Valerie Rock, senior in mass communications, enjoyed her time in the competition and said she was inspired by the collab-

"One of the coolest things about these competitions is that you get to see different styles," said Rock in an email interview. "And you can just appreciate improv for what it is. Improv has always seemed more collaborative than competitive; you're there to support one another and to create something amazing, whether you're with your own team or working with several groups."





Erin Poppe | Collegian

reenacted an audience member's day last spring. During "First rule of chem lab? You don't talk about chem lab." The Purple Group acts out an audience participation scene where they a chemistry lab, Meg, the audience member, had spilled the same chemicals on her hand that were used in the movie Fight Club. This past weekend, On The Spot, the K-State improv troupe, competed in a competition in Kansas City and placed third.

Manhattan Housing Authority meets, discusses local housing improvements

Jakki Thompson

assistant news editor

The Manhattan Housing Authority met for the first time in 2012 on Monday to discuss conditions in residential neighborhoods and living conditions.

One of the most prominent issues of 2011 that MHA discussed was the audit conducted by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development from mid-November to near the end of January. There were no large issues that were cited, but there were some small issues that had to be written up.

One incident that was discussed was water heaters in one-bedroom apartments that needed to be replaced. The 40gallon water heaters that were supposed to replace the originals, however, were too large. The solution was to put in 30gallon water heaters.

Although the funding for the replacement water heaters was granted under the condition that the new appliances needed to be bought in and created in the United States, the 30-gallon

water heaters were made in Mexico. This may cause an issue for MHA in the future, but the committee decided to move for-

ward for the time. Another citation that MHA was written up for was loose wires in the electrical rooms of some apartments. These wires were placed in boxes with covers that are easily removable, leaving the possibility of electrocution or other related hazards. The citation was issued because it could cause harm to the residents, but was easily fixed with placing a zip tie on the opening handles of the electrical boxes. Residents also do not have access to these rooms, as they

are locked at all times. Patrick O'Neil, program manager for MHA, was recognized for 10 years of services with the authority. O'Neal was originally in charge of projects like billing and other human resources responsibilities, but currently serves as program manager and the human resources manager. He oversees annual reports, certain programs within the authority and other community affairs projects.

MHA also set goals in the meeting, many of which were proposed by JoAnn Sutton, executive director of MHA. One of the main goal areas was oc-

MHA wants to decrease the average turnaround time to no more than 25 days per unit at year-end. Also, the authority wants to increase occupancy rates across all programs to an average annual rate of no less than 95 percent. This will allow MHA to becoming a high performing authority by meeting

certain housing standards. There are many capital improvements the board of commissioners would like to see by the end of the year. These include completing bathroom renovations at Baehr Place, a housing development located just south of the intersection of Claflin Road and Highland

MHA also aims to completely replace the fencing and roofs at Pottawatomie Court. Both of these projects are to be completed by the end of June.

Ad Astra Award winner continues research in environmental science

Professor Kendra McLauchlan studies changing ecosystems, makes strides in environmental research

Jakki Thompson assistant news editor

Professors at K-State not only teach classes, coordinate multiple sections of their courses and provide resources to students — they also conduct groundbreaking research.

One of these professors is Kendra McLauchlan, associate professor of geography, who recently received a grant to uncover the history of ecosystems in the Midwest.

"I really enjoy nature," McLauchlan said. "I really like looking at landscapes and thinking about how they looked in the past and how they could possibly look in the future. I also hike. So when I hike, I like looking around at the plants and rocks and noticing other parts of the natural world."

McLauchlan received an Ad Astra Award for her work. The awards honor the top 150 scientists in the state of Kansas.

Winning the award made me really excited about the work we are doing," McLauchlan said. "It's important for people to figure out how they are changing the planet and how these different ecosystems have been changing over time."

McLauchlan went on to say that the award is a huge motivator for her and her entire faculty on this project. She applied for the grant they are using in July 2009 and heard that she re-

ceived it on Christmas Eve that same year. She said this award isn't the end; rather, it is just the beginning.

"McLauchlan is an easy person to get along with," said Joseph Williams, graduate research associate in the geography department. "She is pushing a lot of boundaries in this field. She is continuing to build a path between paleontologists and modern ecologists, which is not always regularly done. She is also someone who is well-connected with the field

"It's important for people to figure out how they are changing the planet and how these different ecosystems have been changing over time."

Kendra McLauchlan associate professor of geography

Williams is from the United Kingdom and traveled to the United States in October 2011 to work on this project with McLauchlan. He said the possibility to work in the United States and to work on something new and exciting encouraged him to come to the U.S. He also said he was excited about working with McLauchlan on new research methodology on

this project. "I did a fair amount of modern ecological work in the U.K.," Williams said. "The work

I did there was more shortterm, like over a 50-year time period. The work we are going to be doing here will be looking over 10,000 years worth of sediment."

The group of researchers is currently using three sites for their research. Two are forest areas at Comstock Lake and Devil's Lake, both in Wisconsin. The third site is grassland at Fox Lake in Minnesota.

"We are actually leaving this Saturday to go up there for the initial research," Williams said. "We will be getting core sediments from all three of the sites and we will be coring into the

frozen-over lakes to get them." McLauchlan said half of this grant is actually about teaching. She had to find a way to use her findings in her research project in her classes and said that it is a simple way to show how research can be fun. She also said that having to teach about her research has made her more compatible to be able to com-

municate about her project. "She is not someone who would ever make you feel inferior," Williams said. "She is so approachable and so knowledgeable about what she teaches about. A lot of students find her approachable and say 'hi' to her when they see her on a side-

One of the biggest hurdles McLauchlan faced was being innovative enough to interpret the data. She also said synthesizing the data between the three sites will also be difficult.

When I won this award, I felt like I am still just beginning this project," McLauchlan said. "But this also reminded me that we have our work cut out

CITY COMMISSION:

Manhattan work session to include updates, 2012 revenue projections

Jakki Thompson assistant news editor

Two main topics are up for discussion at the Manhattan

tonight. City commissioners will address the 2011 Revenue Update and present 2012 Revenue Projections. They will also discuss potential citysponsored donation programs for social service agencies and other benefit programs. The City Commission work session will start at 5 p.m. in the City Commission Room at City





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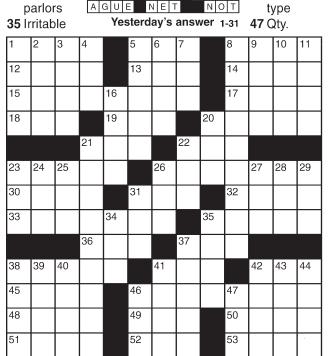
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Logan's Run | By Erin Logan



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Collegian welcomes your letters to the editor. They can be submitted by email to letters@kstatecollegian.com, or in person to Kedzie 116. Include your full name, year in school and major. Letters should be limited to 350 words. All submitted letters may be edited for length and clarity.

CORRECTIONS

There were errors in the Jan. 30 issue.

In the article "Students with diabetes more likely to struggle academically" it was incorrectly reported that Lafene Health Center has diabetes educators and support groups. At this time, Lafene does not have these

On page 4, the artist for the opinion piece "Centralized power hurts envirioment, empower communities for greater local accountability" was incorrectly identified as Cristina Klein. The artist's name is Christina Klein. The Collegian regrets the errors.

If you see something that should be corrected or clarified, please call our managing editor Kelsey Castanon at 785-532-6556, or email her at news@kstatecollegian.com



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All weather information courtesy of the National Weather Service. For up-todate forecasts, visit nws.noaa.gov.

THE BLOTTER

ARREST REPORTS

SUNDAY

Austin Lee Reinert, of the 1300 block of Claflin Road, was booked for driving under the influence. Bond was set at \$750.

Chad Michael Hegland, of the 500 block of Stone Drive, was booked for driving under the influence. Bond was set at

Candace Lynn Judd, of Junction City, was booked for failure to appear. Bond was set at \$500.

Neco Ricky Greco, of Milford, Kan., was booked for driving with a canceled, suspended or revoked license. Bond was

set at \$500.

Thomas N. Bruce, of Ogden, was booked for failure to appear. Bond was set at \$119.

MONDAY

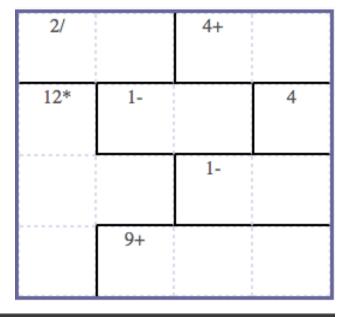
Ginnylee Samantha Harvey, of the 1500 block of McCain Lane, was booked for driving with a canceled, suspended or revoked license. Bond was set

Fabian Martinez-Penaloza, of the 1000 block of Yuma Street, was booked for driving under the influence. Bond was set at \$750.

compiled by Sarah Rajewski.

KenKen | Medium

Use numbers 1-4 in each row and column without repeating. The numbers in each outlined area must combine to produce the target number in each area using the mathematical operation indicated.





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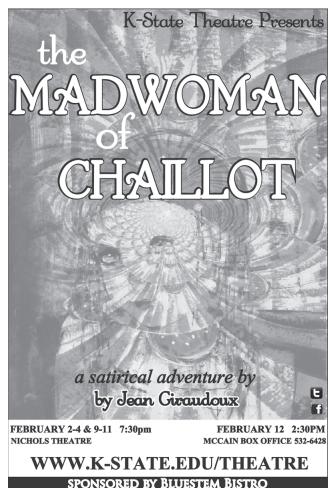
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♦ Wed. Feb. 1, Noon-4 pm

Holtz Hall

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Fri. Feb. 3, 11 am-1 pm

Holtz Hall

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Campus Master Plan Update Open Campus Meetings



Tuesday, Jan. 31 Noon-1:30 p.m. Forum Hall



Wednesday, Feb. 1 6:30-8 p.m. Forum Hall

Planning firm Ayers Saint Gross will be on campus seeking input as we update our master plan.

— Have your say! —

Kansas State

Find out more at k-state.edu/masterplan

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Wildcats looks to bounce back against Iowa State

The Cyclones are hot off of a win over the Jayhawks, while K-State is looking to rebound after a hard home-court loss to the Oklahoma Sooners

Jared Brown

After a three-game winning streak, the K-State men's basketball team appeared to have righted the ship until dropping a rematch with the

Oklahoma Sooners at home on Saturday. Now, the Wildcats are once again faced with the task of forgetting about the loss and focusing on tonight's game against the Iowa State Cyclones in Ames, Iowa.

With Saturday's loss, the Wildcats (15-5, 4-4) dropped out of the rankings and fell to fifth place in the Big 12 Conference standings.

In order for K-State to bounce back with a win against Iowa State, the team must find better ways to score. The Wildcat offense only managed to score 60 points, which is the second lowest point total for Frank Martin's team this season. In that Oklahoma

game junior guard Rodney McGruder led the way for the Wildcats with 19 points. Besides McGruder, however, only one other Wildcat scored in double figures — freshman guard Angel Rodriguez had 10 points.

Head coach Frank Martin doesn't accept moral victories, but there is one positive thing the Wildcats can take away from the loss: the team shot 15 of 18 from the free-throw line.

Contrary to K-State, the Cyclones (15-6, 5-3) are not coming off a key loss, but rather a key win. Iowa State stunned the fifth-ranked Kansas Jayhawks 72-64 Sat-

urday afternoon, snapping the Jayhawks' 10-game winning streak. With the win, Iowa State is now in sole possession of fourth place in the Big 12 standings.

Sophomore forward Royce White scored 18 points and pulled down nine rebounds for the Cyclones in their win over the Jayhawks at Hilton Coliseum. Much like Oklahoma junior guard Steven Pledger, White will be the player of focus on the Wildcats' scouting report of the Cyclones.

White isn't the only player capable of scoring for the Cyclones. Sophomore forward Melvin Ejim scored 15 points and senior guard Scott Christopherson added 14 points on Saturday in that upset of Kansas.

Almost half of the Big 12 Conference schedule is over with and K-State is still searching for answers. With a win over Iowa State, the Wildcats could make a strong statement that they are better than a middle-of-the-pack team in the Big 12. A loss, however, would begin to raise questions of whether this K-State team is still considered a lock to be a NCAA tournament team.

Tipoff is scheduled for 8 p.m. Tuesday in Ames, Iowa, at Hilton Coliseum.

Twominute drill

Corbin McGuire

NFL

The Carolina Panthers will sport a new logo next year, according to a press release Sunday night. It will be the first time the Panthers have changed their logo since joining the NFL in 1995.

According to the press release, the logo was designed to furnish a "more aggressive contemporary look to the logo while making it more 3-dimensional for ever-increasing digital use."

The main changes to the former logo made by the creative department of the NFL are mainly in the eyes and the mouth. The features of the face, particularly the athletic brow and fangs, are more defined to give the panther a more intimidating look. The new logo also incorporates a darker shade of blue over the black logo instead of the former logo that had teal over

"We have one of the finest and most recognizable logos in the NFL and wanted to make it as modern as possible without losing the dramatic essence of the mark," said team president Danny Morrison.

WINTER X GAMES

Shaun White accomplished something no one else has done in the Men's Snowboard SuperPipe finals on Sunday, when he won his fifth consecutive gold medal in the event.

In addition to this feat, White scored the first perfect score — 100 out of 100 — on his final run, catching the eyes of the thousands of fans in attendance and millions of others watching on national television.

White already had the gold medal won after posting a score of 94.00 in his first run, beating out Swiss rider Iouri Podladtchikov, who scored a 93.00. White was determined to unveil his newest trick, a frontside double cork 1260, but fell attempting it in the second run.

White nailed the trick in his record-breaking final run and is now the first person ever to land a frontside double cork 1260 in competition.

NCAA

University of Connecticut guard Ryan Boatright's mother is contemplating what legal action to take on the eve of an NCAA news release detailing an investigation into the freshman's eligibility

man's eligibility.

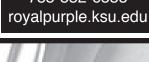
The NCAA said it would take no further action, despite finding that Boatright and his mother accepted more than \$8,000 in impermissible ben-

efits from at least two people.
Scott Tompsett, an attorney representing Boatright's mother, Tanesha, issued a statement that called Saturday's NCAA news release false and misleading. Tompsett said the people who provided the money were friends of the Boatright family with no ex-

pectation of reimbursement.

The NCAA said the benefits included car payments, travel expenses for Tanesha during four official visits to NCAA schools and about \$1,200.





Fitting training into schedules can be tough, worth it



Training is going well despite the business of life, getting to the pool has been a challenge

So far so good.
While there have been those mornings when my blaring phone-alarm goes off at 6 a.m. after I spent the entire night doing homework and I would love nothing more than to forget about competing in a triathlon, I think training is going well.

I have been looking at training kind of like making deadlines for work or classes, if I do not get a story or assignment in, it does not run or I get a bad grade, there is no way around deadlines so the best thing to do is just not miss them. Simple as that

really. If I do not get my training in on the "deadlines" I set for myself, I will not run, or bike or swim for that matter, when my race in May rolls around.

While I cannot say I am starting to feel like a usual at the Rec because I have to go at a different time almost every day due to my schedule, I have been getting there, at least, and working with the schedule I have made up for mysualf.

nyself.
Now, it is not anything

Monday

Tuesday

Thursday

Saturday

Friday

Wednesday

close to perfect, most of the time the week of training I draw out for myself turns into a huge mixed up plan when I add in the time crunches of basketball games and Spanish homework. But this is college, and doing everything at one time while preparing yourself for the future can get a little hectic. My "workout week" starts out on Sunday looking like this:

Monday - high-intensity 35 minute run, upper body weights

run high-intensity 35 minutes,

upper body weights

bike 45 minutes, abs and

short ab workout and cardio

low intensity 50 minute run

swim 45 minutes

squats workout

Crossfit training

Tuesday - swim 45 minutes Wednesday - bike 45 minutes, abs and squats workout Thursday - short ab work-

out and cardio break Friday - low-intensity 50

Friday - low-intensity 50 minute run

Saturday- CrossFit training What usually happens is that everything gets mixed up and I have to add an alternate workout for swimming. I hate swimming when the weather is cold. I am going to work harder next week to get to the pool.

My first column about training for this race I was asked the question, "What does this have to do with student life at K-State?"

I think it has everything to do with student life.

Any girl with a Pinterest is constantly bombarded with the fitness pins and images of what "attractive" looks like. It is almost depressing sometimes because most college kids are way too busy to work out six hours a day in order to look like those Nike models. Between classes, homework and paying bills with partand full-time jobs, sometimes working out can seem like a very far-fetched goal.

I am a victim of constant worrying that I will not have time to fit in a workout. However, with a set goal, like this triathlon, it gives me a reason to get up early or schedule time to work out.

By setting realistic workout goals it not only gives you something to work towards, but it gives you the opportunity to track your progress and see how far you have come. Missing a workout is much more noticeable when you are trying to reach a goal as opposed to just wanting to fit in a "good workout" every day.

For me, it is wanting to compete in a triathlon that keeps me working hard; however, the end goal could be different for everyone. Whether it is running a 5K or simply being able to run a mile, setting a goal and sticking with it by scheduling a realistic amount of training into your busy day is a great way to accomplish something big, while keeping healthy and fit at the same time.

Kelly McHugh is a junior in journalism and digital media. Please send comments to sports@kstatecollegian.com.

SUNDAY, FEB. 5

THURSDAY, FEB. 9

Tennis vs. Arkansas,

Fayetteville, Ark., 12 p.m.

Athletic calendar



TUESDAY, FEB. 7

FRIDAY, FEB. 10

Track and Field,

Tennis vs. Tulsa

Track and Field,

Tulsa, Okla., 3 p.m.

Tyson Invitational,

Fayetteville, Ark.

Equestrian, WEF Collegiate,

Wellington, Fla.

Ames, Iowa

Iowa State Classic.

MBB vs. Texas Tech, TV: Bi g 12 Network, 7 p.m.

FRIDAY, FEB. 3

KELLY'S TRAINING SCHEDULE

Track and Field, New Mexico Invitational, Albuquerque, N.M.

Track and Field, Sevigne Husker Invitaional, Lincoln, Neb.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 8



SATURDAY, FEB. 11

MBB @ Texas TV: ESPN, 1 p.m.

Tennis vs. UT-Arlington, Tulsa, Okla., 1 p.m.

Track and Field Tyson Invitational, Fayetteville, Ark.

Track and Field, Iowa State Classic, Ames, Iowa

SATURDAY, FEB. 4

Track and Field, New Mexico Invitational, Albuquerque, N.M.

Track and Field, Sevigne Husker Invitaional, Lincoln, Neb.

MBB vs. Texas A&M, TV: Big 12 Network, 3 p.m.

WBB vs. Baylor, Bramlage Coliseum, 7 p.m.

Tennis vs. North Texas, Fayetteville, Ark., 12 p.m.

SUNDAY, FEB. 12

WBB vs. Kansas TV: FSN, 12 p.m.

TUESDAY, FEB. 14

Men's golf, UTSA Oak Hills Invitational, San Antonio, Texas

MONDAY, FEB. 13

MBB vs. Kansas TV: ESPN, 8 p.m.

Track and Field,

Ames, Iowa

Iowa State Classic,

Men's golf, UTSA Oak Hills Invitational, San Antonio, Texas

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 15

WBB @ Oklahoma, 7 p.m.



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kansas state **collegian** tuesday, january 31, 2012

Voters should know Republican candidates views on gun rights



Last year, I wrote a column that offered a blanket defense of gun rights and was blessed with an overwhelmingly positive response. Several K-State students and staff members sent me supportive messages and offered words of encouragement. It's clear that many in the K-State community care deeply about our constitutional right to defend our safety and liberty.

With this in mind, I've decided to write a column that asks how the four candidates in the ongoing Republican primary stack up on this important issue.

Mitt Romney, the current frontrunner in the race, is hardly known as a hardline defender of the Second Amendment. For much of the primary, many Republicans withheld their support for the former Massachusetts governor in part because of his compromising stance on gun rights. During a 2002 gubernatorial debate, Romney notoriously assured voters that "We do have tough gun laws in Massachusetts; I support them. I won't chip away at them; I believe they protect us and provide for our safety," according to nationalgunrights.org.

According to the same website, Romney has supported the Brady Handgun Violence Prevention Act, mandatory firearms ID cards, a five-day waiting period on gun purchases, the federal Feinstein gun ban and a ban on semiautomatic weapons. The organization Gun Owners of America has given Romney a D-, a lower grade than any other Republican candidate, according to the organization's official website.

On gun rights, Republicans who vote for Mitt Romney shouldn't delude themselves into thinking that they're making some moderate, pragmatic concession — they should recognize that they're endorsing an anti-Sec Amendment record comparable to Barack Obama's.

Newt Gingrich, conversely, has built up a reputation among many Republicans as a defender of gun rights. In 1993, Gingrich voted against the



Illustration by Yosuke Michishita

Brady Act that Romney supported, according to thepoliticalguide.com. Upon becoming Speaker of the House, Gingrich declared, to widespread Republican acclaim, that "As long as I am Speaker of this House, no gun control legislation is going to move in committee or on the floor of this House and there will be no further erosion of their

Upon closer inspection, however, Gingrich's record is somewhat mixed. In a 1996 Associated Press ar ticle, Gingrich defended his support for the Lautenberg gun ban as "a very reasonable position." Gingrich says he voted for the bill to stop "people who engage in violence against their spouses from having guns," but Gun

Owners of America says the bill could also allow gun owners to permanently lose their gun rights as a result of non-violent shouting matches between spouses. The bill lowered the threshold for losing one's Second Amendment rights to a mere misdemeanor, says the group. The AP article seems to confirm this, quoting a Dole campaign spokeswoman as saying the bill would further prevent those convicted of "harassing" their spouses from having

Thepoliticalguide.com also notes that Gingrich was instrumental in passing the Gun Free School Zone Act. During the 2007 Virginia Tech massacre, Seung-Hui Cho may not have been able to spend nine uncontested

minutes slaughtering 30 people if he had encountered armed student opposition. According to the same website, Gingrich now says he would support the repeal of both the domestic violence legislation and the school zone act.

To his credit, Santorum has a relatively strong record on gun rights. According to On The Issues, Santorum voted against gun show background checks and fought to allow unlicensed gun dealers to participate in gun shows. A Ĵan. 8 Boston Ğlobe article by Shira Schoenberg says Santorum fought against the assault weapons ban and wrote legislation to loosen restrictions on hunting and fishing licenses. The same article, however, notes that

Santorum supported the Lautenberg law. Unlike Gingrich, Santorum has yet to say that he would support

repealing the law. Without a doubt, the candidate with the strongest record of defending the Second Amendment is Congressman Ron Paul. Paul is the only candidate to receive an A+ from the Gun Owners of America. The group says Paul has opposed all gun control legislation that has crossed his path since 1968, and even introduced legislation to repeal the Gun Free School Zone act. In a 2008 essay, Paul pointed out that "the worst shootings happen in gun free zones, like schools" and has urged Americans to be "ever vigilant against any attempts to disarm the

Å Dec. 27, 2011, CNN article by Carol Cratty reported that a record number of firearms were purchased over the holidays. A rising number of Americans are justifiably concerned that an increasingly intrusive government will impede their ability to defend themselves and their families. From Romney's record of promoting regulation and bureaucracy to Paul's staunch defense of our right to bear arms, don't forget to consider this vital question when deciding who to support this primary

lan Huyett is a junior in political science and anthropology. Please send all comments to opinion@kstatecollegian.com.

Eating contests part of American culture despite hunger issues





Joshua Huston

On Dec. 3, 2008, America was reintroduced to a type of competition that had long stayed in the afterthoughts of its denizens: "Man vs. Food" premiered on the Travel Channel and re-familiarized everyone with the concept of an "eating challenge."

The idea was simple: the show's host, Adam Richman, would travel to some of our country's greatest cities, introduce the challenge, and then lead up to his attempt at the challenge by dining at many other famous locales.

The premise of the show typically consists of two types of challenges: spicy or quantity. The former, as one would imagine, involves Richman partaking in particularly hot foods, usually using jalapenos, habaneros or even the dreaded ghost chili pepper. The latter has proven to be significantly more controversial; quantity challenges involve Adam sitting down and eating a massive amount of food which looks to be actually intended

for multiple persons.
"But wait," pipes up you, the reader, "How is there controversy? All he's doing is eating a rather disgustingly large or spicy amount of food." Well,

yes, on the most basic level, all that our increasingly portly host is doing is sacrificing his calorie count for the day for America's enjoyment.

However, that alone is not the issue. Remember how I mentioned that some of the meals he eats could easily feed multiple people? That was not merely a figure of speech. Many of these meals could actually feed many starving people.

Statistics compiled on thinkquest.org note that every 3.6 seconds someone, usually a child, dies from hunger, amounting to approximately 15 million children dying of hunger every year. Around 800 million people are reported to suffer from hunger and malnutrition, which is close to 100 times as many adults and children combined who actually die of these issues.

And the really scary statistic? These numbers indicate only the amount of people from whom data was able to be collected. The ghastly reality is there are probably thousands more who struggle and die from hunger on a daily basis.

Now that you have shaken off the shock from this information, you may be wondering what this has to do with "Man vs. Food." Think back to any episode of the show you have ever watched, and if you have not seen the show, just think of the largest meal you have ever seen. Now imagine this being consumed by one person, while an entire town of starving people looks on.

Why should we be putting shows on television that promote eating a grotesque amount of food when there are people dying of starvation daily? Even one of the meals could easily feed a family, if not more.

On one hand, there is the obvious issue of essentially insulting others who are less fortunate by eating so much when they have so little, but on the other hand one could argue this is just part of American culture.

Like one would be reluctant to question why England loves its afternoon tea, maybe one should not question why America loves eating and watching others eat — it is merely part of the culture and

should be respected as such. In the end, it comes down to the individual to decide if these kinds of shows and con-

tests are unethical or not. Personally, I feel as though the issue is rather blown out of proportion. I feel as though there is a lot of talk about trying to solve hunger but little action to counter it. Trying to stop what is essentially a part of American culture will not solve hunger, it will merely take a popular show or two off television. However, this is merely my take on the matter and I encourage everyone to educate themselves and decide what

Joshua Huston is a junior in social work. Please send all comments to opinion@kstatecollegian.com.

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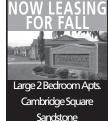
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Students take a break in between class to relax and hoola hoop in the Quad on Monday.

IMPROV | Collaboration, team dynamics critical for group

Continued from page 1

In addition to the learning and support aspects, team cooperation and bonding also play a large part in improv, and an improv team's success. On The Spot experienced these moments in and out of competition.

"This is my last College Improv Tournament because I'm graduating in May," Good-Turney said. "I honestly love the people that I have worked with in this team. They are more than teammates and friends. They are my family. I can't say how well I did because we play off each other. No one person shines; it's everybody building off each other that makes it so great. I was just happy because we beat

Even when team members do not travel together, the group has a team-oriented dynamic and stay updated on each other's success.

"I am in On The Spot improv, but I wasn't able to go to the competition," said Alisha Bolz, senior in communication studies. "I'm very proud of their

work and how they did, though."

The Heartland Regional is the only large tourna-ment that On The Spot usually competes in, but the group itself is active on K-State campus. On The Spot will begin holding shows every other week in the K-State Student Union Little Theatre, starting at 8 p.m. and running for an hour and a half. On The Spot will also have a show in the Columbian Theatre

in Wamego on Feb. 10. Rock said one of the things that On The Spot would like to focus on is bringing schools together through improv.

"We hope to some day bring together the groups from nearby colleges/universities to do a kind of Big 12 Improv Showdown, or something similar," Rock

For On The Spot, collaboration is critical.

"A few years ago, we did a workshop with an improv group from Chicago," Lit-trell said. "They had done the Heartland Regional before, and highly encouraged us to. Now, we're bringing a Chicago improv group, The Reckoning, into K-State for performance and workshop opportuni-

On The Spot is mostly self-funded, with additional funding from the Student Governing Association and the Union Program Council for special events like The Reckoning. The group takes donations from audience members as

The group also has an open audition at the begin-

ning of every school year. "With improv, you just have to be willing to get up there and roll with it," Littrell said. "It's not like stage acting, with a set script or rehearsals. Everyone can have the pre-show jitters and nerves, but it really goes away once you begin to perform. We had a brand new person on our team this year for the competition, and she did

great." For more information about On The Spot, visit the group's Facebook page and Twitter handle. Information about upcoming shows and ticket purchasing can be obtained through any On The Spot members.

"This was a great way to start the improv year right," Good-Turney said.









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